

Nautical News

Vero Beach Power Squadron

November/December 2014
Volume 43 Issue 6

Come for the Boating Education . . . Stay for the Friends

Dear Jim

This months Nautical News features - your nominees for 2015 Bridge, Save the Lagoon is turned over to the Boy Scouts, 12 new members and the past months in pictures. ~ *Cmdr. W. Miller*

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Your 2015 Slate of Officers - Judy Peschio, P

VERO BEACH POWER SQUADRON 2015 NOMINEES

The 2014 Nominating Committee has met several times this year. The committee is pleased to present the following list of Squadron nominees for 2015 to the membership for your consideration.

The membership will be asked for a vote of approval of this slate at the December 8th Annual Meeting.

Office	2014 Holder	2015 Candidate
Bridge		
Commander	Warren Miller, AP	Bob Sheridan, AP
Executive Officer	Bob Sheridan, S	Mary Wohlstein, S
Educational Officer	Al Ebstein, SN	Doug Jacoby, AP
Administrative Officer	Mary Wohlstein, S	Ellis Simon, SN
Secretary	Susan Hamel, P	Susan Hamel, P
Treasurer	Susan Ritchardson, S	Susan Ritchardson, S
Asst Educational Officer	Larry Lott, AP	Dick Myers, JN
Asst Admin Officer	Tammy Smith	Tammy Smith
Asst Secretary	Brenda Sheridan	Brenda Sheridan
Asst Treasurer	Judy Ward	Judy Ward
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Exec Committee (plus Bridge)		
Regular	Jim Ward, JN	Jim Ward, JN
Regular	John Spilman, SN	John Spilman, SN



Your Bridge

Commander
Cdr Warren Miller, AP
(772) 567-8036

Executive Officer
Lt/C Robert Sheridan, AP
(772) 794- 0458

Educational Officer
Lt/C (P/C) Alan Ebstein, SN
(772) 462-0249

Administrative Officer
Lt/C Mary Wohlstein, S
(954) 895-0132

Secretary
Lt Susan Hamel, P
(517) 930-2099

Treasurer
Lt/C Susan Ritchardson, S
(772) 460-3866

Quick Links



Our Web Site



District 8



USPC

Regular	Kathie Thomas, P	Kathie Thomas, P
Regular	Toby Jarman	Toby Jarman, S
Regular	Judy Peschio, P	Warren Miller, AP
Regular	Judy Ward	Judy Ward
Regular	Bob Scully, N	Bob Scully, N
Alternate	Barbara Ebstein, P	Judy Peschio, P
Alternate	Janet Leh, P	Janet Leh, P

Auditing Committee		
#1	Frank Bilotta, S 2015	Frank Bilotta, S 2015
#2	Marg Kiefer, 2016	Marg Kiefer, 2016
#3		Henry McKay, P 2017

Nominating Committee		
#1	Bob Scully, N 2015	Bob Scully, N 2015
#2	Jan Mooney, 2015	Jan Mooney, 2015
#3	Judy Peschio, P 2016	Judy Peschio, P 2016
#4	Kathie Thomas, P 2016	Kathie Thomas, P 2016
#5	Janet Leh, P 2014	Warren Miller, AP 2017
#6	Alyse Caldwell, AP 2014	Alyse Caldwell 2017

Rules Committee		
#1	Bill Lembeck, S 2015	Bill Lembeck, S 2015
#2	George Thurman, 2016	George Thurman, 2016
#3		Ken Hill 2017

Respectively submitted by the 2014 Nominating Committee,
Chair P/C Judy Peschio, P
P/C Bob Scully, N
P/C Janet Leh, P
Lt Kathie Thomas, P
Lt Jan Mooney
Alyse Caldwell, AP

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SAVE THE LAGOON COMMITTEE - Toby Jarmin, S

OYSTER MATS

* The Boy Scouts assembled about 40 oyster mats on September 20 in Sebastian at the Oklawaha camp. The Boy Scout leaders also learned how to drill the oyster shells. Thanks to Jerry Casey, Roger & Linda Hutchinson, Cathy Ceglady, and Marg Kiefer for their help. District Scout Leader, Paul Giordano, plans to make oyster mat making an on-going project for various scout troops in Indian River and Saint Lucie Counties.

* High School student George Katilus organized, via Facebook, an oyster mat assembly event at the Squadron building on October 4. About 30 students, parents and a teacher assembled about 80 mats. Thanks to Jerry Casey, Roger Hutchinson, and Jo Ann Jarman for their help.

* With the weather cooling, plans were underway at the time of this writing to resume drilling oyster shells and assembling oyster mats by VBPS members in late October-please contact Toby Jarman if you wish to participate.

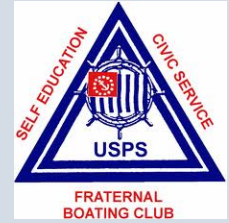
WATERWAY CLEANUP

* Florida Department of Environmental Protection offered, and the VBPS Executive Committee approved, co-adoption with the Moorings Yacht Club of spoil island SL3 (southeast of Green Marker 171, across from Harbor Branch). This island was stripped of exotic plants and replanted with indigenous plants a few years ago but is now overgrown and needs a lot of TLC. Contact Toby Jarman if you would like to participate.

* VBPS participated in the October 19, 2014 Inaugural Spoil Islands Scavenger Hunt by greeting participants on SL3. This event was a fund raiser for the Fort Pierce Hibiscus Children's Center.

MANGROVE RESTORATION

* The Marine Resource Council has suspended mangrove restoration in Indian River County and is now focusing on areas around the Kennedy Space Center which we will not participate in due to the distances involved. However, working with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, we may incorporate



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mangrove plantings with our new duties related to spoil island adoption.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- * I met with Ms. Nicole Mosblech, Environmental Science teacher and sponsor of the Vero Beach High School Environmental Club, to discuss a VBPS partnership with her Club. The purpose of this partnership is to extend what is taught in the classroom with the real world by taking Club members out on our boats. Possible topics include:
 - * The importance of oysters, sea grasses and mangroves on Lagoon-related wildlife
 - * Seining
 - * Studies of the natural development of spoil island vegetation and wildlife
 - * Identification and removal of exotic plants on spoil islands
 - * Planting indigenous vegetation on spoil islands
 - * Water quality testing by students
 - * New water testing equipment and web-based data collection used by ORCA (Kilroys) and Harbor Branch (LOBOS)
- * Contact Toby Jarman if you would like to take students out on your shallow-draft boat.
- * Bob Scully was appointed Chairman of the new District 8 Environmental Committee. The goal of this Committee is to replicate in other Squadrons much of what we have accomplished in VBPS. This is a major step forward in the Save the Lagoon Committee's goal of replication.



STEPHEN HAIGIS
Harbor Master
772.770.4470

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Vero Beach

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Our Calendar's



VBPS Events



Birthdays

Commander - Cdr Warren Miller, AP

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Dear Vero Beach Power Squadron Members Associates and Friends

More Links



It seems impossible that we are beginning the last third of the year, and my time as Commander comes to an end. I can never thank my Bridge and Executive committees enough for the work that they do to keep our Squadron at the top of district 8. I know a lot of people say that it is too much work to be on the Bridge, but it really isn't. There were always past Bridge officers to help with any problems that arise. Hello VBPS Members, Associates and Friends, as my year winds down this will be my last Nautical News Article as your Commander. Hard to believe how fast this year has gone. I would just like to Thank-You for letting me be your Commander. It's truly been a great year serving you. Thanks to P/C Jim

Ward JN as my aide and P/C Judy Peschio P my Flag Lieutenant who were always there when I need guidance. Thanks to the Executive committee, who devote their time running VBPS in the background? An last my Bridge ,Executive Officer L/C Robert Sheridan AP, Educational Officer P/C Alan Ebstein SN, Administrative Officer L/C Mary Wohlstein S, Secretary Lt/C Sue Hamel P, and last but not least Treasure Lt/C Suzie Ritchardson S. These are the people who do all the hard work, and give me all the credit. But it takes many more members to make Vero Beach Power Squadron the best Squadron in D8 and that is why we give out Merit Marks to reward you for all the work you may put in.

Member participation is the backbone of the Vero Beach Power Squadron and our future. As we move forward we need to remember that the primary goal of the Power Squadron is to educate boaters to create a safer boating environment, to involve ourselves in Civic activities, to create a better place for us all to live, and gather in fellowship, to create new and lasting friendships. To do this efficiently we need Bridge officers; I know it's nice to just come to social events and various boating activities. But without a functioning Bridge it will be almost impossible for us to function as a real Power Squadron. Without an Executive officer who would oversee our Boat Shows, Boys and Girls Fishing, or our Environmental dept. Without an administrative Officer who would oversee our Dinners, our Friday Night Social, our Raft-ups and Beach-Ups and Cruises. Without Bridge officers there would be no leadership to Vero Beach Power Squadron. And without leadership where we will be headed. We really need members to step up and assume a leadership role rather than waiting for someone else do it. I can't think of a better way to get to know everyone in our Squadron, than to get involved with the operation of the Squadron. When I first came on the Bridge I hardly knew anyone, I now know almost everyone.

Please try to attend our Annual National Meeting - The meeting dates are Jan. 18th through the 25th, 2015 in Jacksonville, FL (<http://www.usps.org/>). If you have not attended one of these, you should really try. There are a lot of things to do in Jacksonville and many other things within a half hour.

At this year's District 8 Fall Conference - Your conference representatives were , Gail Miller, B. Heimbaugh, Suzie Ritchardson, Rich Ritchardson , Bob Scully, and your Cdr.. Reports from the fourteen D8 Squadrons where presented Friday. Friday night there was a hospitality suite. Saturday morning there were informational seminars, followed by our council meeting. Squadron members Larry Lott, Dick Myers, Vernon Pastirchak, George Thurman, were awarded Certificates of Educational Proficiency. Chris Caldwell was the recipients of the Charles F. Chapman Award for education in our Squadron. Vero Beach

Warren Miller AP
Commander

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Executive Officer - T Lt/C Robert Sheridan, AP

Greetings to all



This is my final article for the year so I want to thank all of the Executive Officer's chairs, committee leaders and volunteers who all contributed to a busy, successful year of events.

To begin, thanks to Lt. (P/C) Bill Heimbaugh, S for leading the Cooperative Charting program this year. Nationally, USPS Cooperative Charting volunteers contribute annually an estimated 15 - 20 million dollars worth of services to our Federal Government through the Cooperative Charting reporting program. The team meets weekly to do ICW depth measurements between Melbourne and Ft. Pierce, which are then reported to NOAA. This information is used to update nautical and small craft charts. The team also looks for damaged or misplaced navigational aids. Thanks Cooperative Charting



Ensign Fall 2014

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volunteers for your fine work. Bill is looking for more volunteers-if you're interested, email him at billh1710@comcast.net. It should be noted that that this group placed number one in District 8 this year and 13th in the nation!

Thanks to Lt. Richard Carlin, S for organizing the successful Boys and Girls fishing event. We had a fun, productive and educational experience. The kids caught many fish, learned boating safety and enjoyed a great lunch. Thanks to all who volunteered their boats and time to ensure the kids had a great time. We do have one more Boys and Girls fishing event coming on November 8th, Its never to late to get involved.

The last boat show of the year is November 22- 23. P/C Bob Scully N has done a fantastic job organizing these events. These events bring in new members and people interested in taking our courses. This year we will have a life raft deployment demonstration presented by our own Safety Officer Chris Caldwell at 2 PM, followed by a barbecue at the Power Squadron.

We will be inviting members of both the St. Lucie and Sebastian Power Squadrons to attend the demonstration and the barbecue!

Coming up on December 7th is the annual Vero Beach Christmas Party to be held at the Vero Beach Yacht Club! Everyone had a great time last year, great food, great band and great companions!

Our Public Relations Officer, Lt. Sue Hamel, P continues to promote Squadron events and classes with press releases, media interviews and posters. I can't say enough about the job she and her team has done. Thanks Sue, for a fine job.

I cannot say enough about the tremendous job that Toby Jarman has done this year with his "Save the Lagoon Committee". Toby will be reporting his activities in a separate article, be sure to read it!

Your Executive Officer,
Lt/C Robert Sheridan, AP

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Educational Officer - Lt/Cdr (P/C) Alan R. Ebstein, SN



SEO REPORT

Hi Everyone

Education Dept. News Article



This is the time of year when we all start thinking about the next course we would like to take.

To assist in making that decision, here is the course calendar as we currently know it:

Please sign up for these courses 30 days in advance on the Ed. Dept Bulletin Board in the Dqdn Bldg. This will allow enough time to collect money and order student material.

Junior Navigator	-- Nov. 8, 2014	9:30 to Noon
Sail	-- Nov 11, 2014	10 am to noon
Weather	-- Nov 12, 2014	10 am to noon
Marine Electrical Systems	-- Jan 7, 2015	9:30 am to noon
Seamanship	-- Jan 8, 2015	7 pm to 9 pm
Advanced Piloting	-- Jan 12, 2015	7 pm to 9 pm
Engine Maint.	-- Jan 12, 2015	10 am to noon
Marine Communications	-- Jan 14, 2015	1 pm to 3 pm
Piloting	-- Jan 15, 2015	10 am to noon
Cruse Planning	-- Jan 20, 2015	1 pm to 3 pm or 7 pm to 9 pm

About two to three weeks before a course is due to start, an all member e-mail will be sent out to remind you that a particular course is starting. Please sign up well before that e-mail if at all possible.

Administration Officer - Lt/C Mary Wohlstein, S



Happy Holidays

It is hard to believe that it is November already and 2014 is winding down. For me it has been a very busy year with the VBPS and I often wonder how I ever found time to have a full-time job.

This year has been exciting for me as the Administrative Officer. I have enjoyed organizing and attending social events, participating on the Strategic Management Team and in the Focus Groups, supporting civic activities such as the oyster mats and environmental clean-up, and providing input to the New Member Orientation Program. It was rewarding to recruit and meet new members and get them involved in VBPS.



I managed to balance all of this with my volunteer work at the VNA Hidden Treasures and have already starting working on the VBPS 3rd Annual Ladies Luncheon and Fashion Show to benefit the VNA scheduled for February 21, 2015 at the VBYC.

As we enter this holiday season, Mike and I wish all of you and those you love, health and happiness now and in the New Year.

We are both looking forward to an even better year in 2015.

We are Vero Beach proud!

Lt/C Mary Wohlstein, S
Administrative Officer

Safety - Chris Caldwell, AP

STAYING AFLOAT

Halloween is over but you can still dress like a superhero! Your cape can be optional but please consider wearing a utility belt. All joking aside I believe you should always have a small flashlight and multi tool on your belt. When (not if) you have to check something you already have a few simple tools such as a slotted and Phillips screwdriver, pliers and a gadget or two along with a flashlight. No more yelling, "Bring me a flashlight," because you don't want to crawl out of there to find it. You have it on your belt.

And for the minimalist consider at least wearing a folding knife. A knife with a serrated edge will saw wet rope, dock line or lock lines. Make sure it is a single hand open design. One hand for the boat and one hand for you.

Yes, dress like Batman and be prepared. So many people know I have my tools and walk up to me and ask to borrow a screwdriver or flashlight. Maybe they can ask you next time...Be prepared. Be a safe boater!



Chris Caldwell - VBPS Safety Officer

Reminder

Please come join us on Saturday, November 22 for two Vero Beach Power Squadron Events.

A Live Life Raft Demonstration presented by Captains Chris and Alyse Caldwell will take place at 2:00 PM near our booth at the Vero Beach Boat Show.

Following the Demo at 5pm at our VBPS building, we are hosting a BBQ and have invited neighboring Squadrons to join us.

New Members



Anna Alberti



Dale & Sandy
Reimer



Deborah Bayless



Jack McFarl
&
Gus Fort



Joe Mumaw



John & Christine
Luca



Paul & Caroline
Castle



Richard Yzaguirre

In Pictures

[Awards](#)



top left: Coop charting award 13th nationwide, 1st in district accepted by Bill Levine awarded by XO Bob Sheridan.

top right: Sue Hamel, & Judy Peschio receive the Public Service announcement, 2nd place national, awarded by Commander Warren Miller.

bottom left: Sue Hamel receiving the Chapman Scrap book award, 2nd nationally, awarded by Commander Warren Miller.

bottom right: Vernon Pastirchak, Dick Meyers, & Larry Lott, for education proficiency from Education office Al Ebstein.

Chili Cook-off



Pirates Beachup



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I have been pondering about a recent project of mine to locate and clean up my Grandfathers grave site and tombstone. After I located the site and did what I could with a trowel and grass clippers, Beverly asked me If I was going to pray? You know, the thought never entered my mind. I told her that I had prayed to my Grandfather many times in the past. But that wasn't true. I have never prayed to my Grandfather but he was often the subject of my prayers as I thanked the Lord for all the things my Grandfather had passed on to me and how privileged I have been to share his story with others. We do not pray to bones in the grave or focus our prayers on a tombstone. Our prayers should only be focused on our relationship to God. So here I was, spending all this time on a grave marker buried under years of sod accumulation ... what was that all about? Well, as best as I can put it, the gravestone or memorial marker plots a point in time and validates a memory and story. The name and date remind us that we were not born in a vacuum. We are part of a chain. A chain made up of real people who walked and talked, laughed and cried and there is a stone in the ground with an engraving to prove that it happened. It makes us aware that we are part of a process; past, present and future. It is our obligation to 'carry on' as best we can and thank the Lord for the opportunity.

SGM/Chaplain Frank T Jones, III
VBPS

SGM F.T. Jones III
The Great American Storyteller
United States Army, Public Affairs (Ret)

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In Memory

Memorial



Long time VBPS member, Donald Hyer passed away in September, 2014

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Thanks to all of the contributors. Hope you all have happy holiday's and see you next year.

Sincerely,
Ron Miller
Publisher Nautical News - Vero Beach Power Squadron

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